

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

According to the present invention, a technique for delivering content over a network having endpoints and nodes that store content is provided.

5 In one embodiment, the technique is realized by first launching a request for content from a requesting end point. Then propagating the request over the network to the nodes. While the request propagates, it leaves a trail at the nodes and, when content  
10 matching the request is located, a copy of the content is returned to the requesting endpoint over the trail left by the request.